

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 02868 282103Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INR-10
INRE-00 CIAE-00 SP-02 PA-01 /055 W
-----008911 282113Z /66

O 282015Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4718
AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT
USCINCSO QUARRY HGTS, CZ IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2868

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PPDC, DR, US
SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGES TO BALAGUER AND GUZMAN
AND SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO FONMIN

REF: (A) STATE 135945, (B) STATE 135946, (C) STATE 135952
ALL NOTAL

1. AMBASSADOR DELIVERED SECRETARY VANCE'S MESSAGE TO
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JIMENEZ AT 1730
LOCAL MAY 27. HIS USUAL PLEASANT SELF, JIMENEZ ASKED
AMBASSADOR TO EXPRESS HIS THANKS, HIS EXCELLENT MEMORIES
OF MEETING THE SECRETARY AT GRENADA AND HIS ANTICIPATION
OF EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH HIM AGAIN. HE ALSO SAID HE HAD
TALKED TO PRESIDENT AS RESULT OF AMBASSADOR'S APPROACH ON
MAY 26 (SANTO DOMINGO 2844, PARA 6) AND PRESIDENT WOULD
BE GLAD TO SEE AMBASSADOR AT ANY TIME.

2. EMBASSY CALLS TO PALACE AIDES DURING AFTERNOON OF
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MAY 27 MET WITH PROMPT RESPONSE FOR FIRST TIME SINCE THE
EVENTS OF MAY 17. APPOINTMENT WAS ARRANGED FOR 2130 WHEN
AMBASSADOR PRESENTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE, READING
LETTER OUT LOUD TO BALAGUER IN SPANISH TRANSLATION (BEING
POUCHED DEPARTMENT). BALAGUER SAID HE WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE,
THAT HE REMEMBERED WITH DEEP PLEASURE HIS CONTACT WITH
PRESIDENT CARTER DURING CANAL TREATY SIGNING CEREMONIES,

THAT HE APPRECIATED PRESIDENT'S CONTINUING INTEREST IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AS WELL AS THE INTEREST EXEMPLIFIED BY THE SUPPORT OF THE U.S. IN THE PAST, AND THAT HE WOULD ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE FOR ANYTHING ON WHICH THE EMBASSY NEEDED TO SEE HIM DURING THE REST OF HIS TERM IN OFFICE FOR ANY CONTACT ONCE HE HAD ASSUMED THE ROLE OF A "SIMPLE CITIZEN."

3. BALAGUER LOOKED TIRED AND WAS CERTAINLY MORE SUBDUED THAN AT PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS LAST WEEK. HE NEVERTHELESS WENT TO SOME LENGTHS TO BE CORDIAL, APOLOGIZING REPEATEDLY FOR HIS FAILURE TO RECEIVE AMBASSADOR THE MORNING OF MAY 17 (CLAIMING UTTER FATIGUE FROM PREVIOUS STRENUOUS NIGHT). IT WAS FINALLY AGREED WITH MUCH MUTUAL EXPRESSION OF REGARD THAT THE SUBJECT WAS CLOSED. HIS OFFER TO SEE AMBASSADOR ANY TIME MAY PROVE TO BE USEFUL DURING TOUCHY TURNOVER PERIOD AHEAD.

4. EMBASSY WAS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT ANTONIO GUZMAN AND HIS RUNNING MATE, JACOBO MAJLUTA, DURING THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 27. GUZMAN'S OWN FEEL FOR THE PROPER SEQUENCE FOR DELIVERY OF MESSAGES AGREED WITH EMBASSY'S AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT AMBASSADOR WOULD MEET GUZMAN AFTER CHURCH AT 1100 MAY 28. AT THIS MEETING GUZMAN, AFTER READING PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER, EXPRESSED DEEPEST APPRECIATION FOR MESSAGE, TO WHICH HE WILL BE REPLYING DIRECTLY. WE BELIEVE SESSION, WHICH LASTED 40 MINUTES, ESTABLISHED USEFUL BASIS FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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FUTURE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH GUZMAN (AND MAJLUTA, WHO ARRIVED AFTER PRIVATE SESSION WAS OVER). FULL REPORT BEING PREPARED.

5. COMMENT: WE ENTER DIFFICULT TRANSITION PERIOD WITH REASONABLE CONTACTS ON BOTH SIDES, THOUGH PERVASIVE REFORMISTA BITTERNESS AT LOSS WILL NO DOUBT BE CONTINUING NEGATIVE FACTOR. IN ADDITION TO OUR INTEREST IN OBSERVING CLOSELY THE INEVITABLE POLITICAL ALARUMS AND EXCURSIONS DURING THIS PERIOD, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE NORMAL BUSINESS TO CONDUCT WITH THE OUTGOING ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING ARREARAGES, TEXTILES AND MARITIME BOUNDARY/FISHERIES, IN ADDITION TO SUPPORT OF U.S. COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. WE MUST ALSO BE OPEN TO EXPLORATORY CONTACTS WITH TRANSITION PARTY OF NEW ADMINISTRATION, ONCE THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE BEEN SELECTED AND ARE READY TO OPERATE. TIMING WILL HAVE TO BE ASSESSED CAREFULLY, AS GUZMAN CONVERSATION BROUGHT OUT. WE WILL BE MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS AND SEEKING GUIDANCE AS DEVELOPMENTS OCCUR. YOST

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition History: n/a
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